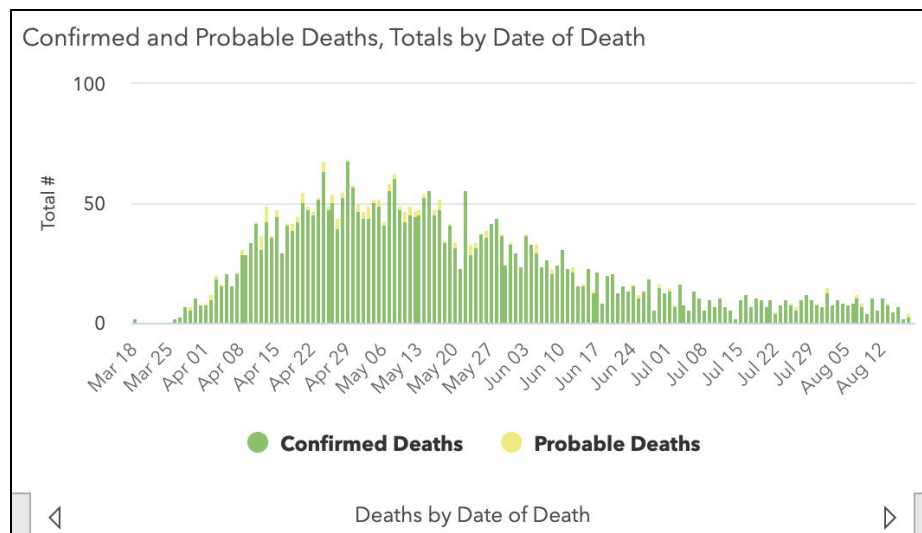
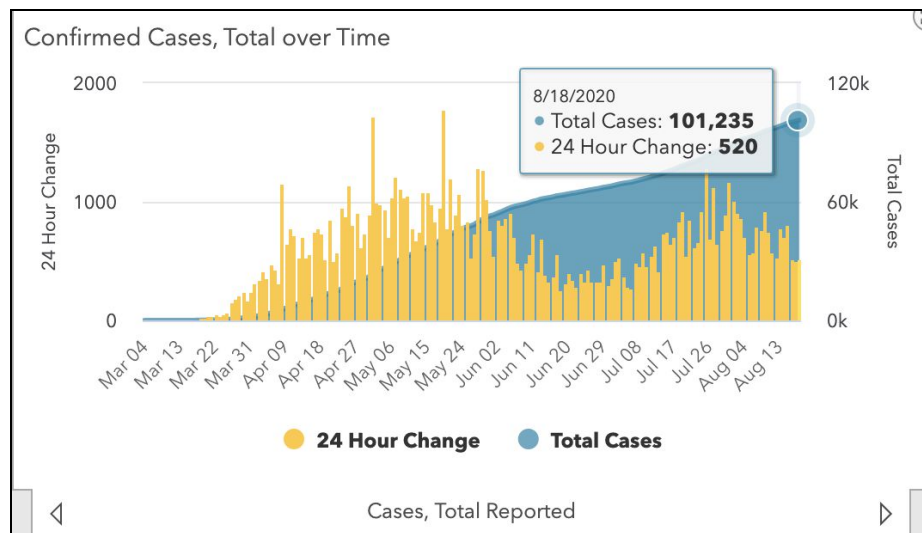
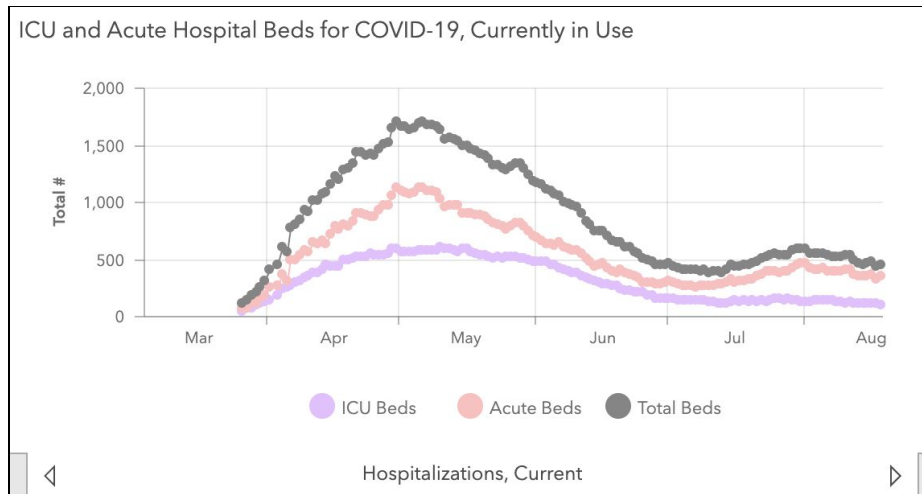


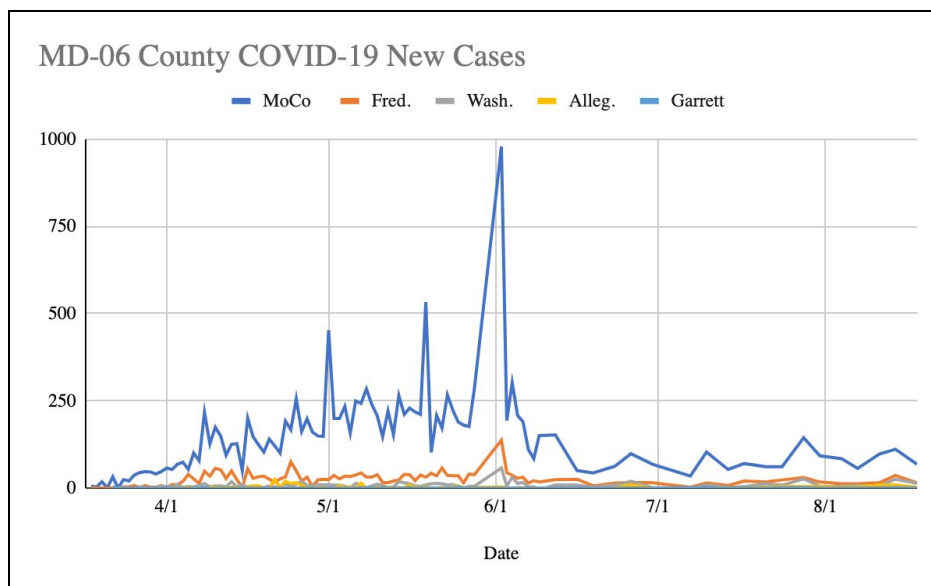
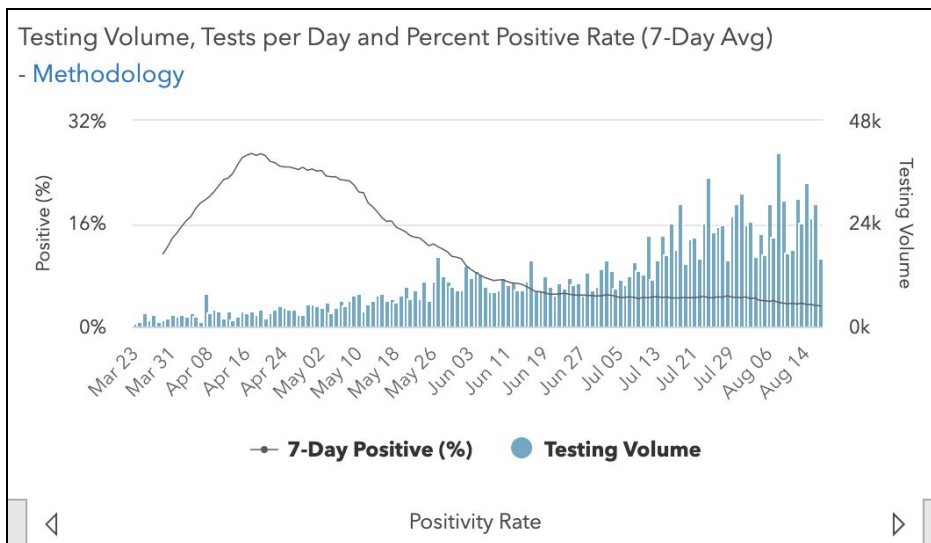
Coronavirus Update: August 18th Congressman David Trone (MD-06)

Stats @ August 18th, 3:00 pm

Charts are sourced from the Maryland [coronavirus](#) website.

MARYLAND DATA





Total cases reported: MoCo 19,127, Fred 3,247, Wash 1,148, Alleg 348, Garrett 58. MD cases: 101,235; MD deaths: 3,511. As of 4:00 pm on August 18th, the U.S. had recorded 5,462,976 confirmed cases and 171,120 deaths due to coronavirus. ([JHU](#))

Federal News

- Last week, the U.S. recorded about 7,400 COVID-19 deaths — about a 2% rise. New cases declined for a fourth week in a row, according to a Reuters tally of state and county reports. The country posted 360,000 new COVID-19 cases for the week ending Aug. 16, down from a weekly peak of over 468,000 cases in mid-July. The U.S. has the worst outbreak in the world in terms of total cases and deaths, accounting for a quarter of the global total of 21 million cases. ([Reuters](#))
- Researchers from the Yale School of Public Health created the SalivaDirect test, which received emergency use authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration on Saturday. "The SalivaDirect test for rapid detection of SARS-CoV-2 [the novel coronavirus] is yet another testing innovation game changer that will reduce the demand for scarce testing resources," said Adm. Brett Giroir, the U.S. official in charge of COVID-19 testing efforts. Unlike some other tests that require specialized supplies, the SalivaDirect test

doesn't require a specific swab or collection device. It can also be used with reagents from multiple vendors. ([CNN](#))

- The S&P 500 index hit an all-time high on Tuesday, completing its recovery from the stock market crash after the onset of the coronavirus crisis in February, and further underlining the disconnect between a rally driven by trillions in official stimulus and a recession-hit U.S. economy. ([Reuters](#))

Maryland Updates

- Maryland health officials added 503 new cases of the coronavirus to the state's tally Monday, pushing the total number of infections to 100,715. The state also confirmed the deaths of two more individuals as a result of COVID-19, totalling 3,504 fatalities overall. This is the lowest number of new deaths reported since March 28. ([Baltimore Sun](#))
- On Tuesday, Governor Larry Hogan announced that Maryland's statewide COVID-19 positivity rate has reached a new all-time low of 3.21% and ICU levels continue to decline. The statewide positivity rate has been under 5% since June 25. There are 453 total current hospitalizations—an increase of 18 in the last 24 hours. There are 102 ICU beds in use—a decrease of 4. ICU levels are down 35% since July 25. ([Office of Gov. Larry Hogan](#))

District Updates

- Montgomery County
 - a. The Maryland Department of Health issued a cease and desist directive and order last week to Rockville-based AdvaGenix, the largest current supplier of COVID-19 tests and lab analysis for county government operated test sites. Today, county leaders announced the termination of the AdvaGenix contract and said they will continue to pursue new testing options. On Friday, testing at all county-sponsored clinics was temporarily suspended until further notice due to concerns regarding AdvaGenix's testing and lab process. In the meantime, the county is redirecting residents to a variety of other sites that offer COVID-19 testing.
 - b. Montgomery County's rental assistance program, administered by the Housing Opportunities Commission, will accept applications starting Tuesday, Aug. 18 at 10 a.m. and continuing through Monday, Aug. 31 at 2 p.m. The program is funded through the CARES Act to provide low-income households with assistance for up to three months to avoid eviction.
- Frederick County
 - a. The coronavirus positivity rate for Frederick County stayed relatively steady on Saturday, with the county's rate remaining well below the state rate. The county health department reported a seven-day positivity rate of about 1.9% through Saturday.
- Washington County
 - a. Hagerstown will reopen the first floor of City Hall on Aug. 19. The area closed Wednesday after a first-floor employee tested positive for COVID-19, according to a city news release. Starting next Wednesday, the lobby and customer service area will reopen to walk-ins. In-person transactions will be available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
 - b. The start of each school year in Washington County Public Schools usually involves prekindergarten teachers first meeting students inside their homes. But the COVID-19 virus has changed that annual tradition, which is intended to build a relationship between the teacher, child and family. This year, to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the first-time meetings will occur on the family's front porch. Each of these "porch visits" will take place on or around Aug. 31, the first day of school.

- Allegany County
 - a. Allegany County has recorded its 21st COVID-19 death, health officials said Monday. The resident of Sterling Care Frostburg Village had previously tested positive for the disease. Officials also reported 11 new cases of coronavirus on Monday, raising the cumulative total to 348. Cases were last reported Friday.
 - b. In preparation for the possibility that students will need to be quarantined due to COVID-19, Frostburg State University booked several rooms in a nearby hotel. FSU paid nearly \$100,000 to reserve a block of 32 rooms in the rear building at the Quality Inn & Suites in Frostburg from Aug. 17 — the first day students return to school, to Nov. 24 — the last day of the semester.
- Garrett County
 - a. The Garrett County Health Department announced the current total county positive caseload is 58.
 - b. The next community testing opportunity in Garrett County is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 26, from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot between the Health Department and Mountain Laurel Medical Center at 1025 Memorial Drive, Oakland.